REMARKS

Claims 24–26 and 29–32 are pending with claims 1–18 and 27–28 withdrawn from consideration and claims 19-23 and claims canceled 27-28 without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 33–37 are added by this paper.

Objections

The Examiner's careful reading of the specification is appreciated. The non-elected subject matter has been withdrawn according to the Examiner's suggestion.

Claim Amendments

Claims 23–24 have been amended to address the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 101. It is submitted that the claim amendments do not add new matter.

New claim 33 is supported by the disclosure contained in page 8, lines 11–12 of the instant specification. Claim 34 recites representative examples of polypeptides comprising the motif of SEQ ID NO.: 1 and is supported by the disclosure contained in Table 1 at page 8 of the instant specification. Claim 35 is directed to a pharmaceutical composition thereof. Claims 36 and 37 recite additional aspects of the instant invention. Support for these claims can be found throughout the instant specification, as originally filed.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 101

Claims 24 and 25 are amended according to the Examiner's suggestion, rendering the pending rejection moot. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph

The rejections, not specifically discussed herein, are moot in view of the amendments to claim 29. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b)

The rejection of claims 24–26 and 29–31 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b) as allegedly anticipated by Noteborn et al. (WO 95/03414), Homma et al. (*Cell Growth and Differentiation*, **vol. 7**, pages 281–288, **1996**) and Nestor et al. (US 5,783,179) is respectfully traversed.

Noteborn teaches a novel chicken anemia virus (CAV) protein, polynucleotides encoding such proteins, and antibodies that are directed against such proteins. See ABSTRACT of Noteborn et al. Figure 3 of the cited reference provides the DNA and amino acid sequence of the viral protein-3 (VP3 protein) of CAV. The 121 amino-acid long putative VP3 protein of Noteborn does not satisfy the structural limitations of the peptides claimed by the instant invention (see amended claim 24).

Homma teaches an N-*myristoylated* phsopholipase C inhibitor (*myr*-PCI) polypeptide comprising a sequence GLYRKMRLRYPV. The polypeptides recited in Figure 1B of the cited reference are all N-terminal derivatized by the large chain fatty acid group, myristoyl. Additionally, Homma discloses that these candidate polypeptides are directed against the PCI region of PLC-γ, a catalytic domain involved in the hydrolysis of its substrate, phosphatidylinositol-trisphosphate (PIP_3). See the third paragraph, under INTRODUCTION of Homma et al. Homma does not disclose a dodecapeptide which binds specifically to an external domain of Hsp47. Therefore the cited reference does not encompass the structural and/or functional features of the polypeptides claimed by the instant invention.

Nestor teaches an optionally *derivatized CRP-dodecpeptide* A-(SEQ ID No.:1)-B, wherein SEQ ID No.:1 is ILYGGPFSPNVL, and wherein A is an acyl group or H, and B is OH or NR_2, with each R independently H, a C_1-C_6 alkyl, a C_1-C_6 haloalkyl, or a C_1-C_6 aralkyl group. See col. 1, lines 45–51 of Nestor et al. It is alleged at page 13 that the polypeptides of Nestor would have the functional limitation Applicants' claim 24. Applicants disagree witht this analysis. The polypeptides of Nestor are directed against a C-reactive protein, an acute phase serum protein (see, col. 1, lines 10–12). Nestor does not disclose that any of

its polypeptides specifically bind to the external domain of Hsp47. As such, the rejection should be withdrawn.

A check in the amount of $450.00 is enclosed for the two-month extension-of- time fees. No other fee is believed to be due, however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this response or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3402.

Respectfully submitted,

Anthony J. Zelano, Reg. No. 27,969
Attorney for Applicant(s)

MILLEN, WHITE, ZELANO
& BRANIGAN, P.C.
Arlington Courthouse Plaza 1, Suite 1400
2200 Clarendon Boulevard
Arlington, Virginia 22201
Telephone: (703) 243-6333
Facsimile: (703) 243-6410

Attorney Docket No.: **UNIMD-0004**

Date: July 28, 2006